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FITZPATRICK CELLA HARPER & SCINTO
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA
NEW YORK, NY 10112

EXAMINER

POON, KING Y

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

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7

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/207,143

Applicant(s)
Don Hideyasu Matsubayashi

Examiner
King Y. Poon

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 35 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 and 12-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 11 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirements.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 16) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 4 20) ☐ Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. Claims 1-5, 7, 15-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knuutila et al (US 6,131,040) in view of Romohr (US 5,596,723).

Regarding claim 1: Knuutila teaches an interface card (2, fig. 2a) for a device (PC 3, column 4, line 24) with image output capabilities, (column 1, lines 30-35) comprising: a connector (interface 15, fig. 2b) for connecting to the device; a controller (control unit 13, column 5, line 6) for sending (transmitting, column 6, line 23) data for output of a quick-start guide (database, column 6, lines 20-25, information related to the type of adapter, column 6, line 56, and interrupt request, column 6, lines 50-55) from the interface card to the device through the connector, wherein the data is sent once without error (confirmation and handshake, column 7, lines 30-40, column 8, lines 1-10) after the card is installed in the device. (when the card is start column 6, line 24)

Knuutila does not teach outputting an image of the quick-start guide/sent data.

Romohr, in the same area of using interface card for connecting devices onto network, teaches to use interface card configuration information (column 9, lines 45-67) for outputting an image of the interface card configuration. (Quick start guide)(NIC frame type, fig. 4K)

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Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Knuutila's interface card to include: outputting an image of the quick start guide.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Knuutila's interface card by the teaching of Romohr because of the following reasons: (a) it would have provided users with a clear picture of the interface card configurations; and (b) it would inform users of network operation systems and frame type available on a network as taught by Romohr at column 7, lines 40-45.

Regarding claim 2: Knuutila teaches a non-volatile memory, (column 6, line 63) wherein the controller stores an indication (the program module, column 6, lines 55-62) in the non-volatile memory that the data has been sent without error (interruption request is for transferring program module, column 6, lines 50-62, when the request is sent without error, the memory would be loaded with the correct program module) in a case that the data has been sent without error, wherein the interface card uses the indication (the program module, column 6, lines 55-62) to determine if the data has been sent once without error, (interruption request is for transferring program module, column 6, lines 50-62, when the request is sent without error, the memory would be loaded with the correct program module) and wherein the interface card is reset (loaded a program module applicable for an adapter unit, column 7, lines 5-6) with respect to whether the data has been sent by resetting the indication. (loaded a program module applicable for an adapter unit, column 7, lines 5-6)

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Regarding claim 3: Knuutila teaches an interface card (2, fig. 2a) for a device (PC 3, column 4, line 24) with image output capabilities, (column 1, lines 30-35) comprising: a connector (interface 15, fig. 2b) for connecting to the device; a controller (control unit 13, column 5, line 6) for sending (transmitting, column 6, line 23) data for output of a quick-start guide (database, column 6, lines 20-25, information related to the type of adapter, column 6, line 56, and interrupt request, column 6, lines 50-55) from the interface card to the device through the connector, wherein the data is sent once without error (confirmation and handshake, column 7, lines 30-40), and once without error (confirmation and handshake, column 7, lines 30-40, column 8, lines 1-10) following each reset of the interface card (loaded a program module applicable for an adapter unit, column 7, lines 5-6) with respect to whether the data has been sent. (confirmation and handshake, column 7, lines 30-40)

Knuutila does not teach outputting an image of the quick-start guide/sent data.

Romohr, in the same area of using interface card for connecting devices onto network, teaches to use interface card configuration information (column 9, lines 45-67) for outputting an image of the interface card configuration. (Quick start guide)(NIC frame type, fig. 4K)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Knuutila's interface card to include: outputting an image of the quick start guide.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Knuutila's interface card by the teaching of Romohr

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because of the following reasons: (a) it would have provided users with a clear picture of the interface card configurations; and (b) it would inform users of network operation systems and frame type available on a network as taught by Romohr at column 7, lines 40-45

Regarding claim 4: Knuutila teaches a non-volatile memory, (column 6, line 63) wherein the controller stores an indication (the program module, column 6, lines 55-62) in the non-volatile memory that the data has been sent without error (interruption request is for transferring program module, column 6, lines 50-62, when the request is sent without error, the memory would be loaded with the correct program module) in a case that the data has been sent without error, wherein the interface card uses the indication (the program module, column 6, lines 55-62) to determine if the data has been sent once without error, (interruption request is for transferring program module, column 6, lines 50-62, when the request is sent without error, the memory would be loaded with the correct program module) and wherein the interface card is reset (loaded a program module applicable for an adapter unit, column 7, lines 5-6) with respect to whether the data has been sent by resetting the indication. (loaded a program module applicable for an adapter unit, column 7, lines 5-6)

Regarding claim 5: Knuutila teaches wherein the interface card comprises a network interface card, (adapter unit, column 3, lines 15-20) and wherein the device generates printed output (facsimile copies, column 1, line 4) and is connectable to a network through the interface card. (Column 3, lines 15-20, column 4, lines 18-25).

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Regarding claim 7: Knuutila teaches wherein the quick-start guide includes networking information (information related to the type of adapter unit, column 6, lines 55-56) for connecting the device to the network through the network interface card.

Regarding claim 15: Knuutila teaches wherein the controller also detects if the data is sent without error. (column 8, lines 1-10)

Regarding claim 16: Knuutila teaches wherein the controller detects information (ACK, NACK, received, column 8, lines 1-6) about the device and modifies the data in accordance with the detected information. (Column 8, lines 1-10)

Regarding claim 17: Knuutila teaches wherein the non-volatile memory comprises a NVRAM (column 4, lines 60-64)

Regarding claim 18: Knuutila teaches wherein the NVRAM stores firmware (program, column 4, lines 60-64) for the interface card, and wherein in a case the firmware is updated by reloading the NVRAM, (column 7, lines 20-40) the indication that the data has been sent without error is reset. (loaded a program module applicable for an adapter unit, column 7, lines 5-6, if the program is loaded with error, it would indicate to the system of the error and cause the system to reload the program according to column 8, lines 1-10)

Regarding claim 19: Knuutila teaches wherein the non-volatile memory comprises an EEPROM (column 4, line 55)

Regarding claim 20: Knuutila teaches wherein the EEPROM stores firmware (program, column 4, lines 60-64) for the interface card, and wherein in a case the firmware is updated by

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flashing the EEPROM, (column 7, lines 20-40) the indication that the data has been sent without error is reset. (loaded a program module applicable for an adapter unit, column 7, lines 5-6, if the program is loaded with error, it would indicate to the system of the error and cause the system to reload the program according to column 8, lines 1-10)

Regarding claim 21: Knuutila teaches wherein the device (3, fig. 1) has a housing and wherein the interface card is disposed within the housing. (Fig. 1)

Regarding claim 22: Knuutila teaches wherein the device (3, fig. 1) has a housing and where the interface card has a housing (4, fig. 1) different than the housing for the device.

Regarding claims 23 and 24: Knuutila teaches a network interface card (2, fig. 2a) for connecting an image output device (PC 3, column 4, line 24) to a network, (column 3, lines 15-20), comprising: a connector (interface 15, fig. 2b) for connecting to an image output device; (PC 3, column 4, line 24); a memory 14, fig. 2a) for storing data for output of a quick-start guide; (database, column 6, lines 20-25, information related to the type of adapter, column 6, line 56, and interrupt request, column 6, lines 50-55); a non-volatile memory (column 4, lines 60-64) for storing an indication (program module, column 6, lines 55-62) of whether or not the data has been sent without error to the connector; (loaded a program module applicable for an adapter unit, column 7, lines 5-6, if the program is loaded with error, it would indicate to the system of the error and cause the system to reload the program according to column 8, lines 1-10); a controller (control unit 13, column 5, line 6) responsive to application of power (controllers are drive by power) for (1) sending the data to the connector in a case that the indication stored in the

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non-volatile memory indicates that the data has not been sent without error; (loaded a program module applicable for an adapter unit, column 7, lines 5-6, if the program is loaded with error, it would indicate to the system of the error and cause the system to reload the program according to column 8, lines 1-10) and (2) storing the indication that the data has been sent without error in a case that the data has been sent without error to the connector. (loaded a program module applicable for an adapter unit, column 7, lines 5-6, if the program is loaded without error, it would indicate to the system not to reload the program according to column 8, lines 1-10)

Knuutila does not teach outputting an image of the quick-start guide/sent data.

Romohr, in the same area of using interface card for connecting devices onto network, teaches to use interface card configuration information (column 9, lines 45-67) for outputting an image of the interface card configuration. (Quick start guide)(NIC frame type, fig. 4K)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Knuutila's interface card to include: outputting an image of the quick start guide.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Knuutila's interface card by the teaching of Romohr because of the following reasons: (a) it would have provided users with a clear picture of the interface card configurations; and (b) it would inform users of network operation systems and frame type available on a network as taught by Romohr at column 7, lines 40-45.

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2. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knuutila et al (US 6,131,040) in view of Romohr (US 5,596,723) as applied to claim 5 above, and further in view of Kraft. (US 5,870,767)

Regarding claim 6: Knuutila/ Romohr do not teach wherein the data (image) is sent in the form of a print job.

Kraft, in the same area of displaying and printing images, teaches to send images (hyper text images, column 6, lines 35-40) in the form of a print job. (Column 6, lines 30-43)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified image sending method of Knuutila/ Romohr to include: sending the data in the form of a print job.

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified image sending method of Knuutila/ Romohr by the teaching of Kraft because of the following reasons: (a) it would have provided users an alternative way of viewing the image data as taught by Kraft at column 6, lines 33-43, (b) a hard copy of the image would have allowed the users to easily carrying and storing the image, compare to carrying a display, and (c) it would have allowed users to reproduce multiple copies of the image for other users.

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3. Claims 8, 9, 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knuutila et al (US 6,131,040) in view of Romohr (US 5,596,723) as applied to claim 4 above, and further in view of Fujii et al. (US 6,128,263)

Regarding claim 8: Knuutila teaches the device comprises a computer system. (PC 3, column 4, line 24)

Knuutila/ Romohr do not teach wherein the interface card comprises a CD-ROM interface card.

Fujii, in the same area of using interface card connecting a computer system to a network, teaches a CD-ROM interface card. (Column 10, lines 55-62)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified interface card of Knuutila/ Romohr to include: a CD-ROM interface card.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified interface card of Knuutila/ Romohr because of the following reasons: (a) it would have allowed the computer system of Knuutila/ Romohr to access a CD ROM; (a) a CD ROM would provide the computer system of Knuutila/ Romohr a high capacity memory; and (c)a CD ROM would provide the computer system of Knuutila/ Romohr a portable memory.

Regarding claim 9: Knuutila teaches wherein the computer system has a display connected thereto, column 4, line 45)

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Knuutila does not teach wherein the image of the quick-start guide is output through the display.

Romohr, teaches displaying an image of the interface card configuration (Quick start guide)(NIC frame type, fig. 4K) using a display.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Knuutila's display to include: outputting an image of the quick start guide.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Knuutila by the teaching of Romohr because of the following reasons: (a) it would have provided users with a clear picture of the interface card configurations; and (b) it would inform users of network operation systems and frame type available on a network as taught by Romohr at column 7, lines 40-45.

Regarding claim 12: Knuutila teaches the device comprises a computer system. (PC 3, column 4, line 24)

Knuutila/ Romohr do not teach wherein the interface card comprises a DVD interface card.

Fujii, in the same area of using interface card connecting a computer system to a network, teaches a DVD interface card. (Column 10, lines 55-62)

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Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified interface card of Knuutila/ Romohr to include: a DVD interface card.

It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified interface card of Knuutila/ Romohr because of the following reasons: (a) it would have allowed the computer system of Knuutila/ Romohr to access a DVD; (a) a DVD would provide the computer system of Knuutila/ Romohr a high capacity memory; and (c) a DVD would provide the computer system of Knuutila/ Romohr a portable memory.

4. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knuutila et al in view of Romohr and Fujii as applied to claim 8 above, and further in view of Kraft. (US 5,870,767)

Regarding claim 10: Kraft teaches wherein the computer system has a printer connected thereto. (Column 6, line 2)

Knuutila/ Romohr/Fujii does not teach wherein the image of the quick-start guide is output through the printer onto a recording medium.

Kraft, in the same area of displaying and printing images, teaches to send images (hyper text images, column 6, lines 35-40) to a printer for printing on a recording medium. (Column 6, lines 30-43)

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Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified image displaying method of Knuutila/ Romohr/Fujii to include: the image of the quick-start guide is output through the printer onto a recording medium.

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified image displaying method of Knuutila/ Romohr/Fujii by the teaching of Kraft because of the following reasons: (a) it would have provided users an alternative way of viewing the image data as taught by Kraft at column 6, lines 33-43, (b) a hard copy of the image would have allowed the users to easily carrying and storing the image, compare to carrying a display, and (c) it would have allowed users to reproduce multiple copies of the image for other users.

5. Claims 13-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knuutila et al in view of Romohr as applied to claim 4 above, and further in view of Golden et al. (US 6,272,127)

Regarding claim 13: Knuutila teaches the device comprises a display. (Column 4, line 45)

Knuutila/ Romohr do not teach wherein the interface card comprises a display interface card, and the display is connectable to a computer system through the display interface card.

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Golden, in the same area of using interface card to connect devices, teaches to use an interface card (video control card, column 10, lines 50-65) for connecting a computer with a display.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Knuutila/ Romohr's interface card to include: a display interface card, and the display is connectable to a computer system through the display interface card.

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Knuutila/ Romohr's interface card by the teaching of Golden because of the following reasons: (a) it would have allowed the computer system to communicate with the display; and (b) it would have allowed the display signal to be supported by both the computer system and the display as taught by Golden at column 11, lines 50-60.

Regarding claim 14: Knuutila/ Romohr do not teach wherein the data comprises RGB pixel information and synch information.

Golden teaches the data sent from the interface to the display is RGB pixel information and synch information. (Column 11, lines 50-60)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Knuutila/ Romohr's interface card to include: the sent data comprises RGB pixel information and synch information.

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It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Knuutila/ Romohr's interface card by the teaching of Golden because of the following reasons: (a) it would have allowed the display to display the image in color; and (b) it would have preserve video quality as taught by Golden at column 13, lines 60-65.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claim 11 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The prior arts of record do not disclose, teach or suggest the claimed limitations of (in combination with all other features in the claim) wherein the controller sends the data from the CD-ROM interface card to the computer system by performing the following steps of: sending a signal to the computer system that ordinarily would be sent when a CD-ROM has been inserted into a CD-ROM drive connected to the CD-ROM interface card; intercepting a request from the computer system for a filename for an executable program; sending the filename for the executable program to the computer system in response to the request for the filename, the executable program residing in the CD-ROM interface card; intercepting a request from the computer system for the executable program; and sending the executable program to the

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computer system in response to the request for the executable program, wherein when the computer system executes the executable program, the executable program causes the computer system to output an image of the quick-start guide.

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to King Y. Poon whose telephone number is (703) 305-0892

April 5, 2002

GABRIEL GARCIA
PRIMARY EXAMINER
